

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15
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FM USDEL MTN GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2128
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PASS STR AND AGRICULTURE

H PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, MTN, CA
SUBJECT: U.S.-CANADA AGRICULTURAL CONSULTATIONS

REF: MTN GENEVA 8254

1. ON DECEMBER 8 U.S. AND CANADA HELD BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS PURSUANT TO THE CANADIAN NOTIFICATION (REFTEL). THE CONSULTATIONS ENCOMPASSED U.S. TARIFF AND NON-TARIFF MEASURES ON NEARLY ALL DUTIABLE AGRICULTURAL, FISH AND BEVERAGE IMPORTS FROM CANADA. U.S. DEL (KOENIG) AGREED WITH CANADIAN DEL (GIFFORD) THAT PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS TO CLARIFY CANADIAN NOTIFICATIONS. MOREOVER, IT WAS AGREED THAT THIS MEETING MAY BE THE BEGINNING OF A SERIES OF ONGOING CONSULTATIONS.

2. THE CANADIANS STRESSED THAT THEIR NOTIFICATION LIST IS NOT A REQUEST LIST. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, THEY WERE ANXIOUS TO MOVE TOWARD BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS AND TO KNOW WHEN THE U.S. IN TURN WOULD SUBMIT ITS NOTIFICATIONS TO CANADA. CANADA STRESSED ITS MAIN OBJECTIVE TO BE THE REDUCTION OF TARIFF DISPARITIES

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AND THE HARMONIZATION OF TARIFF RATES, THE MODIFICATION

OF TARIFF RATE QUOTAS AND THE LIBERALIZATION OF THE U.S. IMPORT REGIME FOR BEEF AND DAIRY PRODUCTS, THE ABOLITION OF CERTAIN RESTRICTIVE EFFECTS OF MARKET ORDERS PARTICULARLY IN THE POTATO SECTOR, A SYSTEM OF SEASONAL SAFEGUARD MEASURES FOR CERTAIN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES AND A CHANGE IN THE ASSESSMENT OF EXCISE TAXES BASED ON THE PROOF GALLON/WINE GALLON. THE CANADIANS ALSO FLOATED THE IDEA OF A SEPARATE SUBGROUP FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS UNDER GROUP AGRICULTURE.

3. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE REPORTS OF THESE CONSULTATIONS WOULD NOT CONTAIN CONFIDENTIAL EXCHANGES SO AS NOT TO INHIBIT THESE CONSULTATIONS. IT WAS FURTHER AGREED TO HOLD A FOLLOW-UP MEETING THE LATTER PART OF JANUARY, AT WHICH TIME THE U.S. WOULD FURNISH CERTAIN TECHNICAL INFORMATION REQUESTED BY CANADA AND CANADA WOULD SPECIFY PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED WITH MARKS OF ORIGIN, FINAL LIST VALUATION, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION SAMPLING PROCEDURES, AND MARKETING ORDERS.

4. A DETAILED REPORT WILL FOLLOW. CULBERT

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Message Attributes

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